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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1.   A method for logically provisioning resources in a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for one of a plurality of resources in a provisioning environment, said one of said plurality of resources being one of a plurality of different types of resources;

selecting a particular instance of said one of said plurality of resources from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources; and

logically provisioning said selected particular instance to fulfill the request by establishing logical relationships between said selected particular instance and other resources.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

identifying other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

3.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

selecting a particular instance for each of said other ones from a group of unassigned available resources

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of said plurality of different types of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use; and

logically provisioning said selected particular instance for each of said other ones to fulfill a request by establishing logical relationships between each of said other ones.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

indicating that said selected particular instance is in the process of being reserved, said selected particular instance being unavailable for selection after being indicated as in the process of being reserved.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

said group of unassigned available resources including no preassigned logical associations with any other one of said plurality of resources.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is available to be selected utilizing said state variable.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

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associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is shared utilizing said state variable.

8. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is reserved utilizing said state variable, wherein a reserved resource has an established logical relationship with said provisioning enviornment.

9. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

creating a topology for said provisioning environment, said topology including a layout of said plurality of different types of resources; and

said layout defining relationships among said plurality of different types of resources.

10. The method according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

utilizing said relationships defined by said layout to identify other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

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determining other ones of said plurality of resources that are to be associated with said particular instance.

12. The method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

determining other ones of said plurality of resources that depend on said particular instance.

13. A system for logically provisioning resources in a data processing system, comprising:

said system including a CPU executing code for receiving a request for one of a plurality of resources in a provisioning environment, said one of said plurality of resources being one of a plurality of different types of resources;

said system including a CPU executing code for selecting a particular instance of said one of said plurality of resources from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources; and

said system including a CPU executing code for logically provisioning said selected particular instance by adding said selected particular instance to fulfill the request by establishing logical relationships between said selected particular instance and other resources.

14. The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

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said system including a CPU executing code for identifying other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

15. The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

said system including a CPU executing code for selecting a particular instance for each of said other ones from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use; and

said system including a CPU executing code for logically provisioning said selected particular instance for each of said other ones to fulfill a request by establishing logical relationships between each of said other ones.

16. The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a state variable for indicating that said selected particular instance is in the process of being reserved, said selected particular instance being unavailable for selection after being indicated as in the process of being reserved.

17. The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

said group of unassigned available resources including no preassigned logical associations with any other one of said plurality of resources.

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18.   The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a state variable associated with each one of said plurality of resources;

said state variable for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is available to be selected utilizing said state variable.

19.   The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a state variable associated with each one of said plurality of resources;

said state variable for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is shared utilizing said state variable.

20.   The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a state variable associated with each one of said plurality of resources;

said state variable for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is reserved utilizing said state variable, wherein a reserved resource has an established logical relationship with said provisioning environment.

21.   The system according to claim 13, further comprising:

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a topology created for said provisioning environment, said topology including a layout of said plurality of different types of resources; and

said layout defining relationships among said plurality of different types of resources.

22. The system according to claim 21, further comprising:

said relationships defined by said layout being utilized to identify other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

23. The system according to claim 22, further comprising:

said system including a CPU executing code for determining other ones of said plurality of resources that are associated with said particular instance.

24. The system according to claim 22, further comprising:

said system including a CPU executing code for determining other ones of said plurality of resources that depend on said particular instance.

25. A computer program product in a data processing system for logically provisioning resources, said product comprising:

instruction means for receiving a request for one of a plurality of resources in a provisioning environment,

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said one of said plurality of resources being one of a plurality of different types of resources;

instruction means for selecting a particular instance of said one of said plurality of resources from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources; and

instruction means for logically provisioning said selected particular instance by adding said selected particular instance to fulfill the request by establishing logical relationships between said selected particular instance and other resources.

26. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for identifying other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

27. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for selecting a particular instance for each of said other ones from a group of unassigned available resources of said plurality of different types of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use; and

instruction means for logically provisioning said selected particular instance for each of said other ones by adding said selected particular instance for each of said other ones to fulfill a request by establishing

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logical relationships between each of said other ones and said provisioning environment.

28. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for indicating that said selected particular instance is in the process of being reserved, said selected particular instance being unavailable for selection after being indicated as in the process of being reserved.

29. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

said group of unassigned available resources including no preassigned logical associations with any other one of said plurality of resources.

30. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

instruction means for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is available to be selected utilizing said state variable.

31. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

instruction means for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is shared utilizing said state variable.

32. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for associating a state variable with each one of said plurality of resources;

instruction means for indicating whether each one of said plurality of resources is reserved utilizing said state variable, wherein a reserved resource has an established logical relationship with said provisioning environment.

33. The product according to claim 25, further comprising:

instruction means for creating a topology for said provisioning environment, said topology including a layout of said plurality of different types of resources; and

said layout defining relationships among said plurality of different types of resources.

34. The product according to claim 33, further comprising:

instruction means for utilizing said relationships defined by said layout to identify other ones of said plurality of resources that said selected particular instance requires for use.

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35. The product according to claim 34, further comprising:

instruction means for determining other ones of said plurality of resources that are associated with said particular instance.

36. The product according to claim 34, further comprising:

instruction means for determining other ones of said plurality of resources that depend on said particular instance.